Memoir
of the
Rev. William Robinson.

Corrections and Additions.

3

1) MS Lett. of E. Clapp Jr. March 8, 1859. — In the letter of Dr Harris, referred to on p. 4, the name is very distinctly written "Salt Creek."

2) ~~MS. Lett. of March 8, 1859.~~

[All large, except the Notes, & what is mentioned.]

Page 4. line 6 from bott. — For Salt Creeke etc. read Smelt Creeke or Smelt Brooke. In the town records of Dorchester is the following entry: "Decr 17. 1645. Memorand. There was given to Edward Breck, . . . Smelt Brooke Creeke, on the condition that he do set a Mill there." In the original deed from Robinson to Tileston, it is also called Smelt Creeke or Smelt Brooke.1)

add Note*)

Page 5. lines 2,3. — *) According to Mr Clapp, Dr Harris was in error, "in saying that Commercial Point was formerly Captain's Neck. The latter lies between Commercial Point and the Mill". ~~[illegible]~~ Ms. Letter of N March 8, 1859.

small Note.

3) MS. Lett. of E. Clapp Jr. March 8, 1859.

Page 9, line 13. — The note of Rev. Mr Danforth, after ~~on~~ the name of Mary Baker, baptized in 1640, saying that she "married Mr Robinson", appears to be an error. In the town records we find, that "Mary, the daughtr of Richard Baker and Ffaith his wife, was born the 27. 2. [April 27,] 1643." This is undoubtedly the one who "married Mr Robinson"; the other having died young.3)

Page 14, line 2 from bott. — For 1737, read: 1637.

1) See "Brief Discourse concerning Futurities, or Things to Come. By William Torrey. With a Preface by the Rev. Mr Prince. 8v. Boston 1757." This discourse is now very rare. There is a copy in the Library of the American Antiquarian Society, at Worcester Mass.

4) This clause in brackets appears to have been inserted by Dr Belknap; see the next note.

Page 15, line 19. — The occasion of Mr Wiswall's ~~the~~ leaving college without a degree, is thus related by Prince, in his Preface to Torrey's "Book of Futurities," so called: 1) "It had been the custom for the students to take their first degree in ~~the~~ three years, [and their second in two years after]. 4) But the Corporation making a law, that the scholars should study at the college *four* years before they commenced B.A. several scholars, though they were accounted as good as any before them, and I suppose of different classes, went off and took no degree at all." — ~~On~~ Quoting this passage, Dr Belknap, the historian of

2) In an interleaved Triennial Catalogue of Harvard College for 1791, opposite the year 1653. This Catalogue is now in the Library of Harvard University.

3) Magnalia, fol. lib. IV. p. 135.
Life of Increase Mather, p. 14.

New Hampshire, ~~remarks~~ adds in a manuscript note:2) "Five of them made a very shining figure in New England, viz. Rev. Ichabod Wiswall of Duxbury, Agent; Josiah Winslow, Governor of Plymouth; Rev. Samuel Torrey of Weymouth; Rev. Samuel Wakeman of Fairfield; and Rev. William Brinsmead of Marlborough." — Cotton Mather says that ~~he~~ seventeen in all left college in this way; but he names only the last three of the five above ennumerated.3)

From this time I take

Page 26, line 6.—For student, read graduate.

Page 29. — Strike out the whole of the last paragraph, extending over upon the next page, and insert the following:

Thomas Fish jr. who perished at the same time, with Mrs Robinson and her daughter was the eldest son of Thomas and Margaret (Woodworth) Fish of Duxbury. They resided near the boundary line of Marshfield, and worshipped with the first Congregational Church of that town; to the communion of which church Mrs Fish was admitted November 30, 1701. Here all their children were baptized. Thomas, their eldest son, was born May 22, 1700; and graduated at Harvard College in 1719. He is spo-

1) Comp. Deane's Hist. of Scituate, p. 343.

2) The parents of Mr Fish both died suddenly, the father in 1736, the mother in 1737. — Their second son, Ebenezer, ~~[illegible]~~ born Dec. 13, 1703 lived, as a farmer in Duxbury, to a very great age. — The third son, Joseph, born Jan. 28, 1705-6, graduated at Harvard College in 1728, and settled as Pastor at North Stonington, Conn. where he died in 1781. He married Rebecca Peabody, daughter of Deac. William Peabody of Little Compton, R. I. a descendant (vide Mrs Robinson of Duxbury) from John Alden and Priscilla Mullins of the Mayflower. Their eldest daughter, Mary, married, first, the Rev. John Noyes of New Haven, and afterwards, Gen. Gold S. Silliman of Fairfield; and was the mother of Prof. Silliman of Yale College. In 1801 she began an autobiography, which is still in the family of her son. See Sprague's Annals, I. p. 359. — The only ~~a~~ daughter of Thomas and Margaret Fish, Lydia, was born March 24, 1707-8, & married Rev. Eliakim Willis of Malden, Mass. See Sprague's Annals, II. p. 434. After her death in January 1767, a pamphlet was printed by her husband, entitled: "Rachel's Sepulchre; or a Memorial of Mrs Lydia Willis's; containing ~~many~~ of her letters, and some account of her family. ~~and~~ It is now very rare. — The fourth son Samuel, born Oct. 18, 1710, was married in March 1733; and, in ~~the~~ December of the same year, was knocked overboard and lost near the Gurnet, during a gale

[To back of leaf.]

of wind, while helping to shift the sails. — The fifth son, Nathaniel, lived and died in Bozrah, Conn. — The preceding facts respecting the Fish family have been drawn from the pamphlet "Rachel's Sepulchre;" Mrs Silliman's MS Autobiography; and a letter from Miss Marcia A. Thomas, author of the History of Marshfield, dated March 19, 1854. Comp. Winsor's Hist. of Duxbury, p. 258.

ken of as "universally beloved for his strict virtue, amiable and mild manners, and engaging behaviour". The usual notice of marriage had just been published, between him and Miss Anne Turner; who afterwards became the wife of Deac. Joseph Stockbridge of Pembroke.1) It is the family tradition, that he was on his way to Boston, to make preparation for his approaching marriage. ~~2)~~ His body was never found. The disaster is said to have happened near the lighthouse.2)

[~~From bott. of p. 8.~~]

~~Ebenezer, born Dec. 13, 1703, lived as a~~ farmer in Duxbury, and attained to a very great age. — Joseph, born January 28, 1705-6; graduated at Harvard College in 1728; was settled as Pastor in North Stonington, Conn. Dec. 27, 1732; where he continued until his death in 1781. He ~~was~~ married, Nov. 6, 1732, to Rebecca Peabody, daughter of Deac. William Peabody of Little Compton, R. I. a descendant (like Mrs Robinson of Duxbury) from John Alden and Priscilla Mullins of the Mayflower. They had two daughters; the eldest, Mary, married Rev. John Noyes of New-Haven; & after his death she became the wife ~~of Gen. Gold S. Silliman of Fairfield, and~~

[~~To bottom of p. 9.~~] [up]

~~was the mother of Prof. Silliman of Yale~~ College. In 1801 she began an autobiography; which is still preserved in the family of Prof. Silliman, See Sprague's Annals, I. p. 359. — Lydia, born March 24, 1707-8; married, July 20, 1738, Rev. Eliakim Willis of Malden, Mass. (See Sprague's Annals, II. p. 484.) ~~She died June~~ She died January 25, 1767. After her decease a pamphlet was printed by her husband, apparently for private distribution, entitled: "Rachel's Sepulchre, or a Memorial of Mrs Lydia Willis." It contains many of her letters; & is now very rare. A note on one of the letters ~~gives~~ gives an account of her brother Thomas. — Samuel, born Oct. 18, 1710; married, ~~March 1, 1732-3, Elisabeth Randall~~

[~~To p. 10.~~]

~~of Scituate, and was drowned, near the~~
Gurnet, in December 1738, leaving a young widow. He was knocked overboard, during a gale of wind, while aiding to shift the mainsail. He was an excellent swimmer, and would probably have reached the vessel again, had not his great coat been blown over his head. His brother Nathanael, who was on board, saw him make several efforts to throw it back; but in vain! — Nathanael, born April 11, 1713,

the parish of New Concord
removed to ~~[illegible]~~ ~~parish~~ in Norwich, Conn.

~~now~~
~~[illegible]~~ ~~the town of Bozrah~~

1) Historical Account of Massachusetts Currency, by J. B. Felt. Boston, 1839, p. 83, etc.

Page 35, lines 3, 8; and Page 36, Line 20. — It has been suggested, that the salary of £120, and £170, mentioned on these pages, ~~as~~ is probably to be reckoned according to the depreciated paper currency of Massachusetts at the time.

According to Mr Felt, " the ounce

2) MS. Letter of Amos Otis Esq. dated Feb. 21, 1859.

of silver was worth, in 1710 and 1711, 8 shillings in paper money; in 1724-27, 17 shillings; in March 1728, 18 shillings; in Nov. 1733, 19 shillings; in 1740, 20 shillings.

The following statement is also given. 2) The Spanish milled dollar, which was in 1700, and is now, equal to six shillings New England currency, became in 1705 the equivalent of 7 shillings paper money; in 1713 of 8 shillings; in 1716 of 9 shillings; in 1717 of 12 shillings; in 1722 of 14 shillings; in 1728 of 18 shillings; in 1730 of 20 shillings; and in 1737 of 26 shillings.

The salary of Mr Robinson was fixed at his call and settlement in 1700 and 1702, at ~~[illegible]~~ £60 a year, or its equivalent, 200 Spanish ~~mil~~ milled dollars. It is not improbable, that the scarcity of specie, & depreciation of paper money, became a source of difficulty between Mr Robinson and his people, as they would very naturally desire to pay his salary, to a certain extent at least, in the depreciated paper. The judgment for £412. 10s. 6d. recovered by him in court, was probably the difference between specie and currency. The £120 of 1736 amounted to less than £~~40~~30 ~~specie~~ specie; and the £170 of 1737-8, to ~~about~~ less than £40 specie.

This view of the subject relieves it perhaps from the ~~same~~ main difficulties. But it also brings out an ~~new~~ other trait in the character of Mr Robinson,—a spirit of forbearance and concession,—which has not usually been accorded to him.

1) MS Letter of H. W. Ripley, dated Feb. 18, 1859.

A.

Page 46, line 7, 8. Read: Hannah married Nathanael Thomas of Plymouth, Sept. 1, 1729; etc.

Page 47, line 6, 7. Read: Mrs Eliot had one daughter, Betty, who married the Rev. David Ripley, etc.

Page 47, line 2 from bott. ~~+~~ Add: In the winter of 1824-5 he (Andrew Robinson) was living in Bozrah just by the line of Lebanon.1)

Opp.
⊕ Page 51, line 13. Strike out all the line after the period, and insert the following before the asterisk x:

Ebenezer Brown was the son of Capt. John Brown of Swanzey, Mass. an officer in the war of King Philip, and Anne Mason his wife, third daughter of Maj. John Mason of Saybrook, the conqueror of the Pequods in 1637, afterwards one of the original proprietors and settlers of Norwich, and for several years Deputy Governor of Connecticut.8) The daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah Brown, Mrs Lydia Robinson,

x

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8) Ms. Letter of Hon. R. H. Walworth, Sept. 10, 1860. See Trumbull's Hist. of Conn. Barber's Conn. p. 312.

Page 48, line 8. For Wyllys, read Dyer.

Page 48, line 8th 9 from bott. — Read: Solomon, who was a bookseller in New York;

Page 48, line 2 from bott. — ~~Read:~~ For John etc. read: John M. resided in Colchester, died January 12, 1859, while this work was in the press.

⊕ Page 51.

Page 123; add at ~~bottom~~ the end:

Later Note. Since this work was printed, some new information has been brought to light respecting the family of the Rev. John Robinson of Leyden. It is of such

[To back of leaf]

[From p. 16.]

a kind, as completely to set at rest the question discussed in the preceding ~~[illegible]~~ Supplementary Note.

At the celebration at Plymouth, August 2, 1859, on occasion of laying the foundation of the Monument to the Pilgrims, Mr George Sumner of Boston, who has several times visited Leyden, in order to search after any traces of the pilgrims, made the following statement in the course of his remarks:

small "In the year 1622, a census of Leyden was taken, the registry of which is still preserved in the Stadt-House. Here, on p. 38, I found inscribed the inmates of the house of Robinson, — himself, his wife, six children

Small and one maid-servant. Thus stands the record:(8)

Jan Robberson, preacher.

Brigetta (Bridget) Robberson, his wife.

John, Bridget, Isaac, Mercy, Fear, Jacob Robberson, his children.

Maria Hardy, his maid-servant.

Large This record shows conclusively, that William Robinson of Dorchester was not the son, nor a descendant, of the Leyden pastor. As he was a member of the church in Dorchester in 1636, and his eldest son was baptized in May 1640, we cannot well fix his birth later than 1615; and in that case, had he belonged to the Leyden family, his name

[To bottom of leaf.]

(8) See Boston Daily Ev. Adv., Aug. 3, 1859. Historical Magazine, 1859, p. 332.

[From p. 17.]

must have appeared in the census. — The same is true in respect to Abraham Robinson of Gloucester.

The supposed traditions, therefore, in both these instances, turn out to be mere legendary shadows.

Page 92, line 5 from bott. After the period, add:

In 1794 the Rev. Dr Chapin of Rocky Hill was settled on a yearly salary of one hundred pounds; which was never increased during his long ministry of fifty seven years. — By etc.

Page 109. line 8. — For Middletown, read: Tolland.

Page 126. Line 11. — For Ira Barney, read: Eli Barnes.

Page 149, line 12 from bott. — For Easthampton, read: Westhampton.

Page 153. line 19. — For devotional, read doctrinal.

Page 155, line 9 from bott. — add: Of his kind and gentle demeanor towards children, the following is an instance. A Lady, the daughter of one of his leading parishioners, thus writes: "I have a distinct recollection of seeing your father at our house frequently; but was so young, that I do not remember what occurred during those visits, with a single exception. Before I had learned to write, a friend, somewhat older, wrote my

name on a slip of paper, which I carried exultingly to my father. Mr Robinson, who was sitting by, asked to see it. When I gave it to him, he read: Mary B. W—; and looking very pleasantly into my face, said: "And what is the B. for? because you are as industrious as a bee?" I suspect my vanity was a little excited; for it made an impression, which at this distance of time is as vivid, as if it occurred but yesterday."

⊕ Page 190, line 8. After the word descendants,

insert the following:

in the sixth generation, from Maj. John Mason of Saybrook, the conqueror of the Pequods in 1637, afterwards one of the first settlers of Norwich, and Deputy Governor of Connecticut. Also

Page 187, line 8 from bott. — Read: September 21,

Page 187, line 4 from bott. — After 1836, add: graduated at New York University, 1853;

Page 188, line 5. — For 30, read 35.

⊕ Page 190.

1) MS Lett of E. Clapp jr. dated March 8, 1859. Hist. of Dorchester p. 129.

Page 200, App. E, after Page 100. Add the following as the first paragraph.

John Maudesley or Mosely, the ancestor of the family in this country, came to Dorchester in 1630, and continued there till his death, in Oct. 27, 1661. His grave and monument are a few feet distant from those of Richard Mather. His son John removed first to Windsor, and from thence to Westfield.

Page 210, *line* 19. — *For* Dr Mark Hopkins, *read*: Dr. Sewall Hopkins.

Page 211, *line* 23. — For *Seth*, read: *Seth Porter*,

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